



Dec. 22, 2011

This Week:

- Winter schedule goes into effect Jan. 1
- Community celebration for new state ferry Kennewick
- 202-car Tacoma ferry maintenance
- More ferry tales
- Customer compliment

Winter schedule goes into effect Jan. 1

All routes will switch over to the winter sailing schedule on Sunday, Jan. 1. The winter schedule notes annual service reductions, which WSF makes to match the reduced seasonal demand. Changes include: no inter-island vessel on the weekends in the San Juan Islands; no third vessel on the weekends on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route; and no service between Anacortes and Sidney, B.C. San Juan Islands customers should pay particular attention to the winter 2012 sailing schedule. Although it is similar to the winter 2011 schedule, WSF has made minor sailing time adjustments to improve on time performance. To view the winter schedule, visit <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/pdf/2012Winter.pdf>.

Community celebration for new state ferry Kennewick

Festivities are planned to celebrate the completion of the new ferry Kennewick! The event is open to the public and will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, January 6, at the Port Townsend ferry terminal aboard the Kennewick. Attendees coming from Port Townsend may park in the parking lot adjacent to the Port Townsend ferry terminal. Attendees coming from Coupeville may park at the Coupeville Park and Ride located on South Main Street. Be sure to be aboard the regularly scheduled 10:15 a.m. sailing from Coupeville in order to attend the festivities in Port Townsend. All walk-ons may ride for free – first come, first served up to the 750-person vessel capacity. We are pleased that a delegation from the city of Kennewick will join us. For more information on the 64-car Kennewick and the Kwa-di Tabil Class ferries, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/ferries/64carferries/.

202-car Tacoma ferry maintenance

The 202-car Tacoma ferry is presently at WSF's Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility (EHMF) undergoing maintenance. Damage was discovered on the vessel's crankshaft following unusual noises heard by the crew while the vessel was underway on Dec. 8. There were no service disruptions as the Tacoma has four main engines installed and typically operates only two engines when in service. The Eagle Harbor team has disassembled the engine and removed the crankshaft from the engine block. To view photos of this work, visit www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/sets/72157628517676883. WSF Port Engineers are currently determining whether to replace or repair the damaged crankshaft. I really appreciate the diligence of the Tacoma engine crew for inspecting the issue and the work done by the EHMF. I hope to share more information in an upcoming report.

More ferry tales

We posted a new ferry tale this week about a customer seeing Bing Crosby aboard the Bremerton/Seattle ferry. Read more at <http://wsdotferries.blogspot.com/>.

Customer compliment

I received the following compliment from a customer of the 188-car Walla Walla on the Kingston/Edmonds route. I want to applaud those employees who provided him with extraordinary customer service.

The good news is my wallet was found and turned in to ferry [personnel], and I was able to pick it up in Edmonds yesterday evening. Everything was intact, including the "lost" receipt. I must say that everyone I spoke to at the WA. State Ferries was amazingly friendly and helpful. In the world of automated voicemails and impersonal service I was very impressed and thankful for the excellent service and kindness I received from the Ferry staff.

Next Week:

- Happy holidays! Next weekly report on Jan. 6

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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